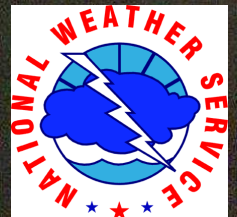
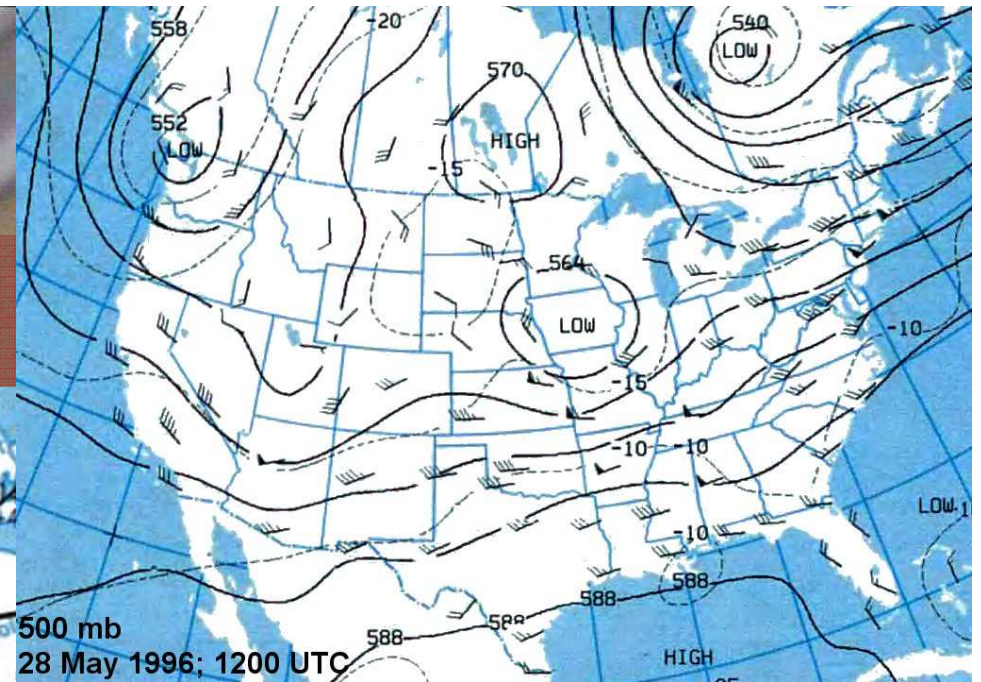
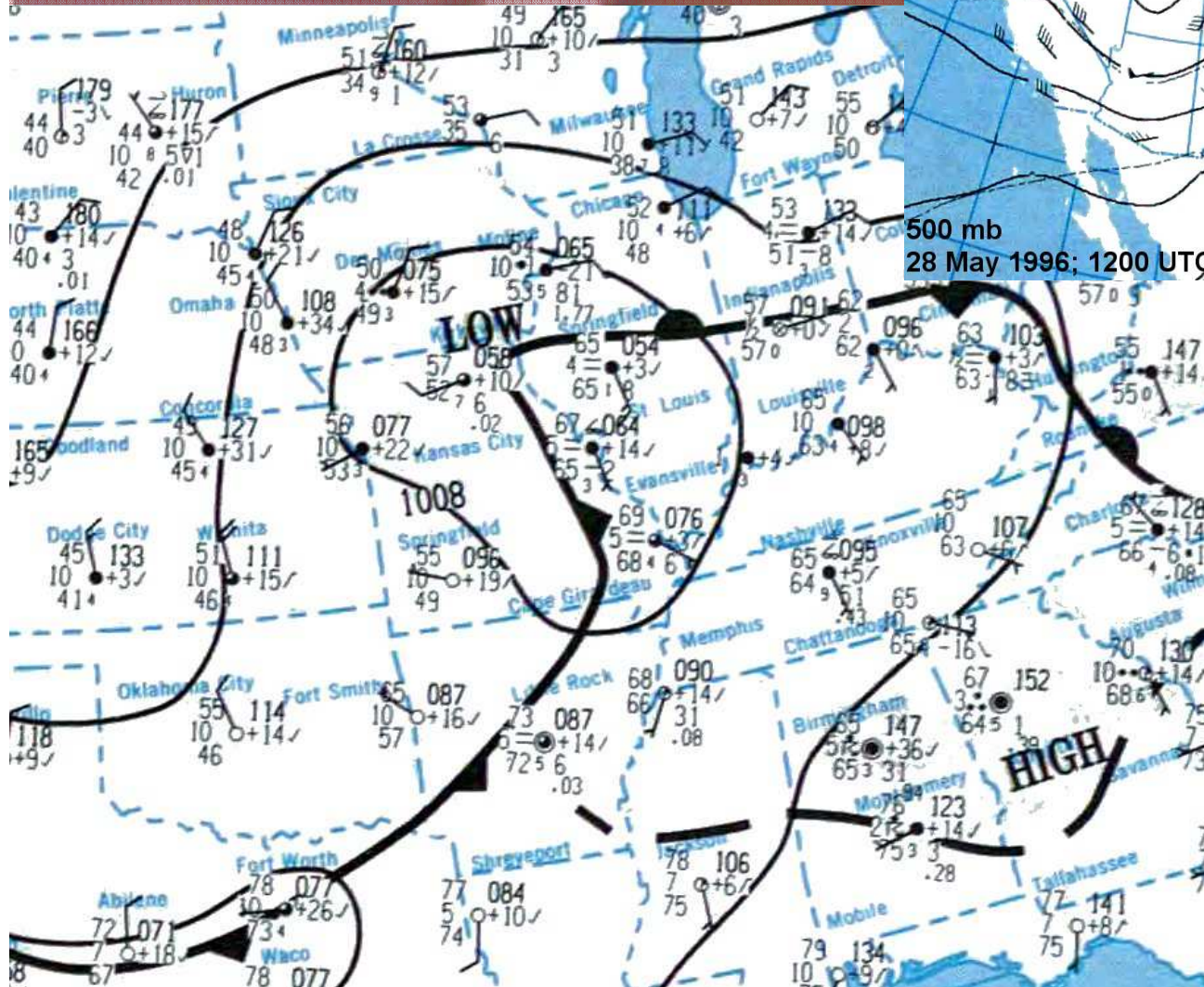


# *TORNADO!*

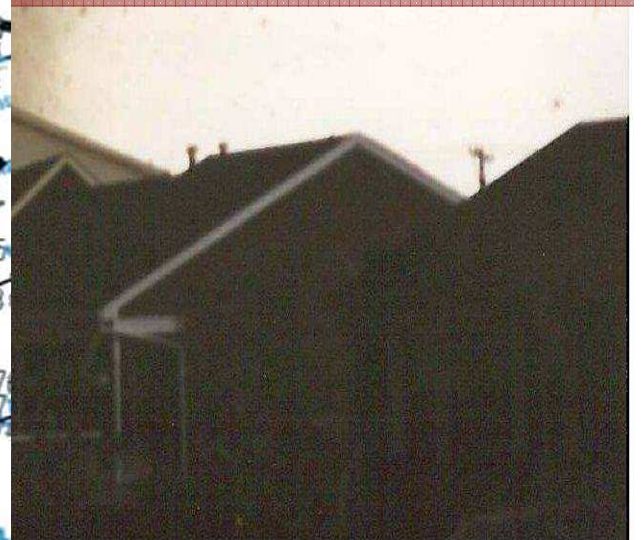




Surface Map at 7:00 am EDT  
May 28, 1996



500 mb (~18,000 ft)  
Map at 7:00 am EDT  
May 28, 1996





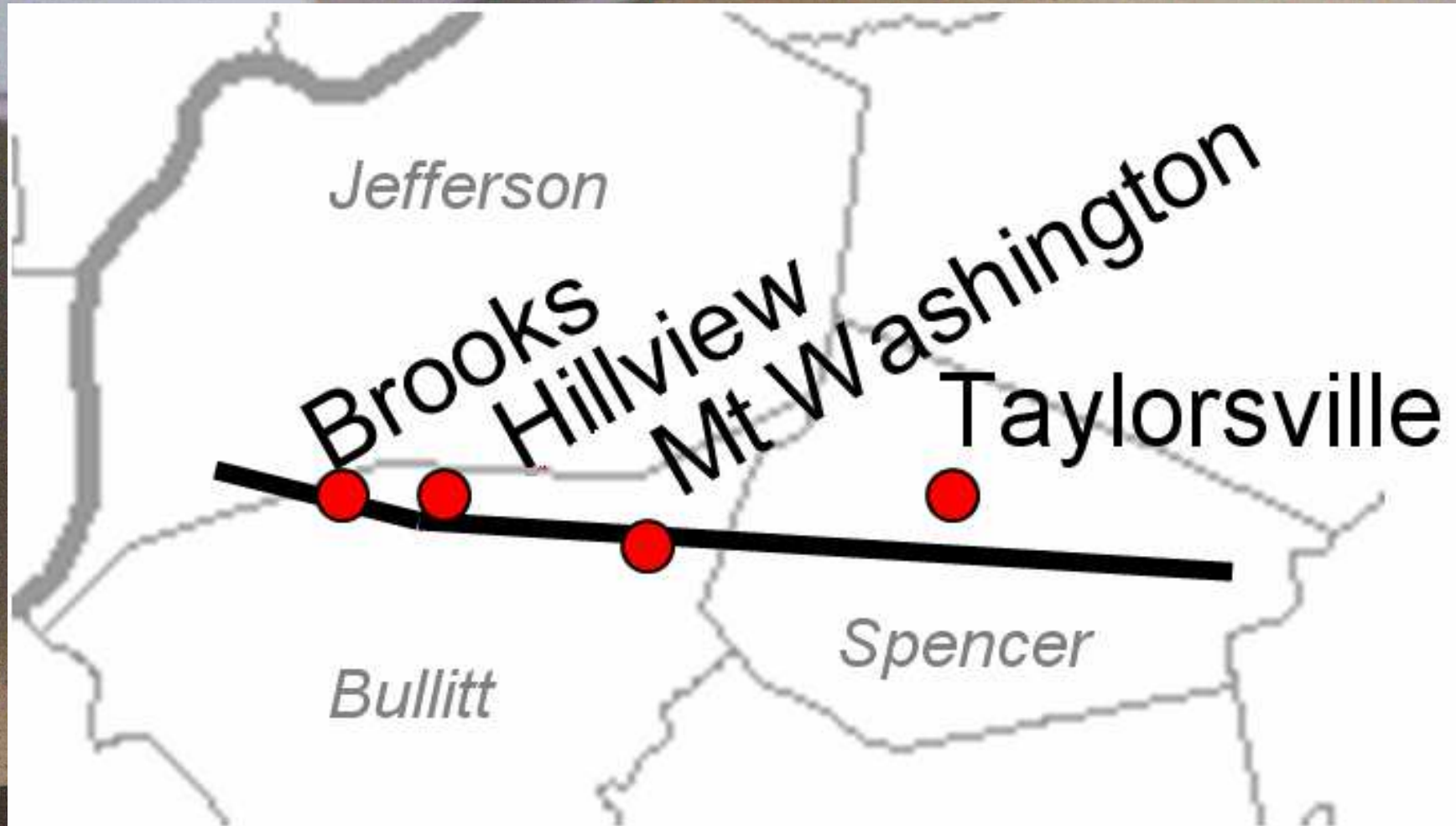
# An Evening To Remember...

## May 28, 1996 Bullitt-Spencer County Tornado

- Maximum strength: F3 (158-206 mph) with one spot of low-end F4 (207-260 mph) damage; tornado damaged or destroyed many homes in its path
- NWS Louisville issued tornado warning for southern Jefferson and Bullitt County at 6:44 pm EDT
- Tornado reached Mt. Washington in Bullitt County at 6:58 pm EDT
- Tornado lifted E of Little Mount in Spencer County at 7:45 pm EDT
- Amazingly, NO deaths occurred.
- Injured ten residents.
- Damaged over 1,000 homes in parts of Jefferson, Bullitt, and Spencer counties in Kentucky.



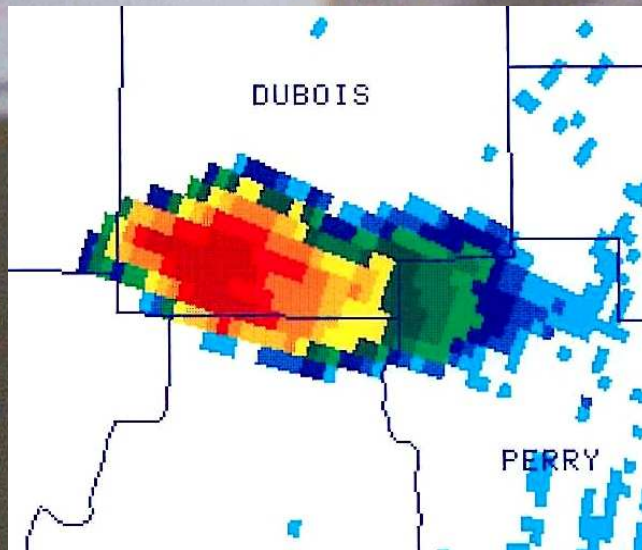
# Tornado Path



***"It felt like a freight train. It seemed like hours."  
-- Sharon Hester, Pioneer News June 3, 1996***



# Birth & Life of the Twister



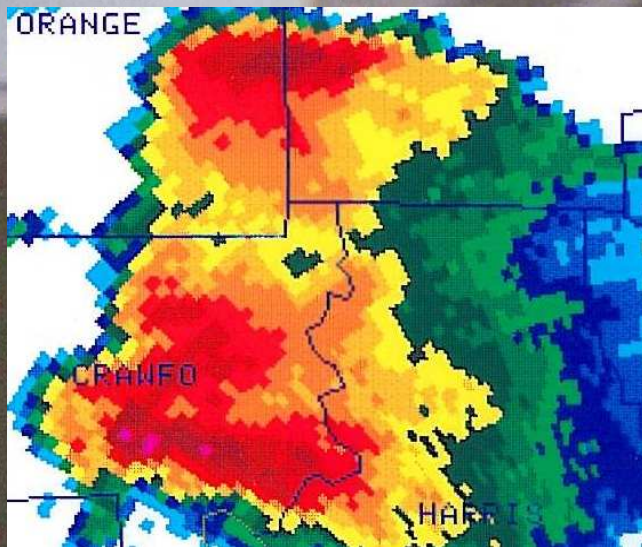
4:48 pm EDT: A severe storm developed over southern Dubois County in Indiana and headed east...



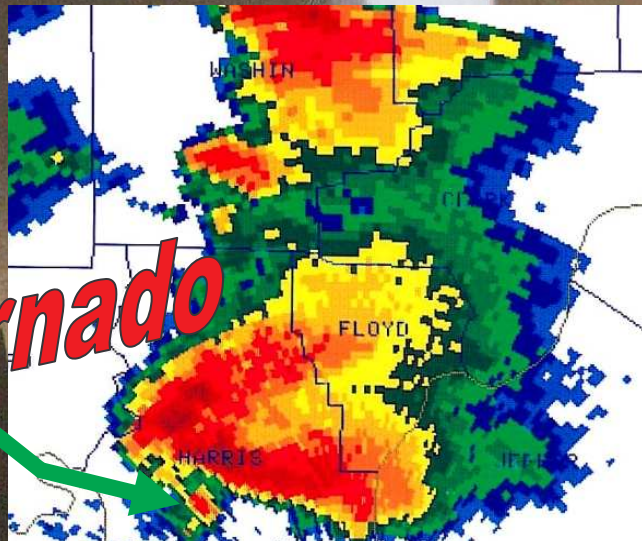
5:18 pm EDT: The supercell storm split in two over western Crawford County, Indiana—one moving to the northeast ("left-mover") and the other to the southeast ("right-mover"). Both storms produced large hail, but it was the southern, "right-mover" which brought significant destruction to the area...



# Birth & Life of the Twister



5:38 pm EDT: The southern storm grew stronger and dropped golf ball sized hail (dark red and pink colors) on Crawford County for 30 minutes.



6:03 pm EDT: The southern storm intensified, and produced an F2 tornado south of Corydon in Harrison County, Indiana.

**Tornado**



# WARNING!

BULLETIN – EBS ACTIVATION REQUESTED

TORNADO WARNING

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LOUISVILLE KY

644 PM EDT TUE MAY 28 1996

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN LOUISVILLE HAS ISSUED A  
TORNADO WARNING EFFECTIVE UNTIL 730 PM EDT  
FOR PERSONS IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS...

IN NORTH CENTRAL KENTUCKY

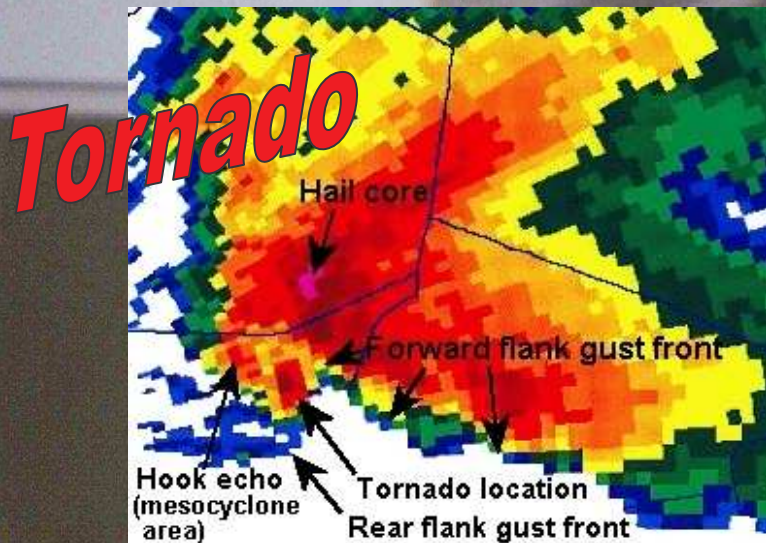
...NORTHEASTERN BULLITT COUNTY...SOUTHERN JEFFERSON COUNTY

AT 642 PM EDT...NWS DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED A TORNADO NORTH OF BROOKS OR 8 MILES  
SOUTH OF DOWNTOWN LOUISVILLE. THIS STORM WAS MOVING EAST AT 25 MPH AND WILL REACH  
MT. WASHINGTON AND FAIRMOUNT BEFORE 700 PM.

IF YOU ARE IN THE PATH OF THE TORNADO...THE SAFEST PLACE IS A BASEMENT. GET UNDER A  
WORKBENCH OR PIECE OF STURDY FURNITURE. IF NO BASEMENT IS AVAILABLE...SEEK SHELTER IN  
AN INTERIOR ROOM SUCH AS A CLOSET ON THE LOWEST FLOOR. USE BLANKETS...PILLOWS...OR  
CUSHIONS TO COVER YOUR BODY. AVOID WINDOWS.



# Birth & Life of the Twister



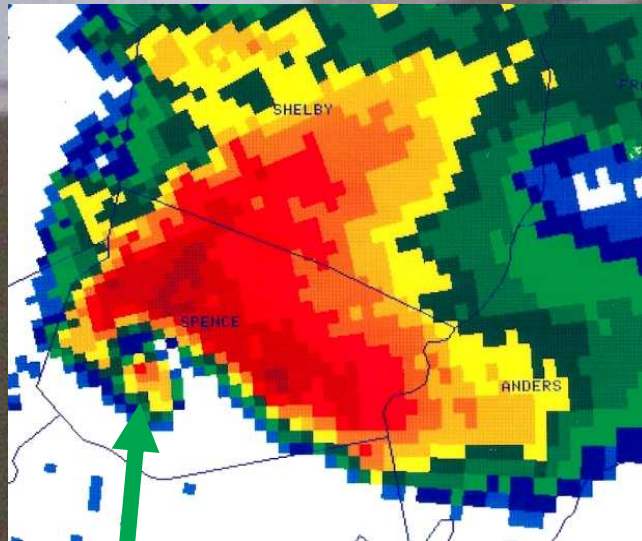
6:58 pm EDT: An F3-F4 multiple-vortex tornado chewed through northeastern Bullitt County, Kentucky bringing great destruction to Brooks, Hillview, and Mount Washington. Hail was occurring over far southeastern Jefferson County at the same time.



6:58 pm EDT: NWS Doppler radar velocity data showed an impressive circulation near Mount Washington associated with the tornado.



# Birth & Life of the Twister



7:13 pm EDT: Exhibiting a classic "hook echo" on National Weather Service Doppler radar, the F3 tornado headed for Taylorsville Lake in Spencer County before lifting east of the lake in eastern Spencer County.

***Tornado***

## ***Tornado Summary...***

<i><b>Path length:</b></i>	<i><b>30 miles</b></i>
<i><b>Path width:</b></i>	<i><b>1/2 mile</b></i>
<i><b>Injured:</b></i>	<i><b>10 people</b></i>
<i><b>Cost:</b></i>	<i><b>\$101,000,000</b></i>



PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...RETRANSMISSION  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LOUISVILLE KY  
600 PM EDT THU MAY 30 1996

...STORM SURVEY REPORT FOR THE SOUTH-CENTRAL INDIANA AND NORTH-CENTRAL AND EAST-CENTRAL KENTUCKY TORNADO OUTBREAK OF TUESDAY 28 MAY 1996...

ON TUESDAY EVENING 28 MAY 1996...A SEVERE CLASSIC SUPERCELL THUNDERSTORM MOVED ACROSS PARTS OF SOUTH-CENTRAL INDIANA AND NORTH-CENTRAL AND EAST-CENTRAL KENTUCKY. THE STORM FORMED OVER SOUTHERN DUBOIS COUNTY INDIANA...THEN MOVED ACROSS HARRISON COUNTY INDIANA...JEFFERSON COUNTY KENTUCKY...JUST SOUTH OF LOUISVILLE...NORTHEASTERN BULLITT COUNTY...AND FINALLY SOUTHERN FAYETTE COUNTY...JUST SOUTH OF LEXINGTON. THE STORM WEAKENED THEREAFTER.

THE SUPERCELL PRODUCED AT LEAST FOUR TORNADOES DURING ITS LIFETIME. THE FIRST TORNADO WAS CONFIRMED ACROSS HARRISON COUNTY INDIANA. THE TORNADO ORIGINATED OVER THE FAR WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTY...IN THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE HARRISON STATE FOREST. THE TORNADO...WHICH LIKELY REMAINED JUST ALOFT DURING PART OF ITS TRACK...THEN MOVED EAST TO JUST SOUTH OF NEW MIDDLETOWN BEFORE DISSIPATING. HOWEVER...IT SNAPPED AND DEBARKED NUMEROUS TREES IN RURAL AREAS AND WAS ESTIMATED TO BE AN F2 TORNADO ON THE FUJITA SCALE WITH WINDS AROUND 150 MPH AND A PATH WIDTH OF ABOUT 1/3 OF A MILE DURING ITS MAXIMUM INTENSITY.

AS THE SUPERCELL CROSSED THE OHIO RIVER...IT PRODUCED GOLFBALL SIZE HAIL IN SOUTHWESTERN JEFFERSON COUNTY KENTUCKY (NEAR LOUISVILLE)...THEN GENERATED A NEW TORNADO TOUCHDOWN IN THE EXTREME SOUTH-CENTRAL PART OF THE COUNTY...APPROXIMATELY 1 TO 2 MILES NORTH OF THE BULLITT COUNTY LINE. AT INITIAL TOUCHDOWN...THE TORNADO WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 1/5 OF A MILE WIDE AND OF F0 TO F1 INTENSITY.

THE TORNADO QUICKLY STRENGTHENED AS IT MOVED INTO NORTH-CENTRAL BULLITT COUNTY NEAR HOLSCRAW HILL ROAD AND TOP HILL ROAD WHERE NUMEROUS TREES WERE SNAPPED OFF AND SOME TREE BARK WAS STRIPPED. THE TORNADO THEN CROSSED NEAR THE BROOKS EXIT AT INTERSTATE 65 AND CONTINUED INTO THE TOWNS OF PIONEER VILLAGE...HILLVIEW...AND EVENTUALLY MOUNT WASHINGTON IN NORTHEASTERN BULLITT COUNTY.

WIDESPREAD SEVERE STRUCTURAL DAMAGE OCCURRED TO OVER 600 HOMES IN THESE TOWNS. THE TORNADO WAS RATED AS A STRONG F3 STORM IN PIONEER VILLAGE AND HILLVIEW...WHERE WINDS WERE ESTIMATED AROUND 200 MPH. F4 DAMAGE OCCURRED TO AT LEAST ONE HOUSE IN HILLVIEW WHICH WAS TOTALLY LEVELED...HERE WIND SPEEDS WERE ESTIMATED AT 210 TO 220 MPH. THE PATH WIDTH OF THE TORNADO WAS APPROXIMATELY 1/3 OF A MILE. THE TORNADO CONTAINED MULTIPLE VORTICES.

THE MULTIPLE VORTEX TORNADO APPEARED TO CONSOLIDATE INTO ONE TORNADO AS IT MOVED THROUGH THE NORTHFIELD SUBDIVISION IN MOUNT WASHINGTON. HERE...THE TORNADO WAS CATEGORIZED AS AN F3 WITH WIND SPEEDS UP TO 200 MPH AND A PATH WIDTH OF 1/3 OF A MILE.

THE TORNADO REMAINED ON THE GROUND AS IT MOVED EAST INTO SPENCER COUNTY. THE TORNADO PASSED OVER ROUTE 55...1 1/2 (ONE AND ONE HALF) MILES SOUTH OF ROUTE 44 AND TAYLORSVILLE. IT THEN PASSED VERY CLOSE TO THE TAYLORSVILLE LAKE DAM AND THE

RANGER STATION AT TAYLORSVILLE LAKE. DURING THIS TIME... THE TORNADO SNAPPED AND DEBARKED NUMEROUS TREES WHILE APPARENTLY MAINTAINING ITS F3 INTENSITY. THE PATH WIDTH HERE WAS ESTIMATED TO BE AT LEAST 1/3 OF A MILE. THE TORNADO AGAIN MAY HAVE HAD MULTIPLE VORTICES AT THIS TIME. THE TORNADO THEN WEAKENED AND DISSIPATED OVER EASTERN SPENCER COUNTY. THIS TORNADO WAS THE MOST VIOLENT OF THE FOUR FROM THE SUPERCELL WITH A PATH LENGTH OF ABOUT 30 MILES.

A THIRD WEAK TORNADO APPARENTLY OCCURRED OVER WESTERN ANDERSON COUNTY. HOWEVER...A FOURTH STRONGER TORNADO DEVELOPED OVER SOUTHEASTERN ANDERSON COUNTY SOUTH OF LAWRENCEBURG. ALONG ROUTE 513 NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF THE BLUE GRASS PARKWAY AND ROUTE 127...SEVERAL HOMES AND BARNs WERE DAMAGED OR DESTROYED AND A NUMBER OF TREES WERE SNAPPED OFF. DAMAGE ALSO WAS NOTED NEAR A CAR DEALERSHIP IN THE SAME AREA. THE STORM IN SOUTHEASTERN ANDERSON COUNTY WAS CATEGORIZED AS AN F2 TORNADO DURING ITS MAXIMUM INTENSITY.

THIS TORNADO CONTINUED INTO WOODFORD COUNTY...BUT WEAKENED TO F0 INTENSITY AS IT DID SOME DAMAGE TO TREES AND LIMBS ALONG LILLARDS FERRY ROAD. THE TORNADO THEN LIKELY REMAINED ALOFT ACROSS PARTS OF WOODFORD COUNTY...BEFORE AGAIN STRENGTHENING AND TOUCHING DOWN ACROSS EXTREME NORTHERN JESSAMINE COUNTY WHERE TREE DAMAGE OCCURRED.

FINALLY...THE TORNADO MOVED INTO SOUTHWESTERN FAYETTE COUNTY...SOUTH OF DOWNTOWN LEXINGTON. HERE...THE TORNADO AGAIN WEAKENED TO F0 INTENSITY. HOWEVER...IN THE CLAYS MILL ROAD AREA AND NEAR THE COPPER FIELD SUBDIVISION...SOME TREES WERE BLOWN DOWN AND SNAPPED OFF ALTHOUGH LITTLE OR NO STRUCTURAL DAMAGE WAS NOTED. THE TORNADO LIFTED AND DISSIPATED OVER SOUTHERN AND SOUTHEASTERN FAYETTE COUNTY. THE SUPERCELL THEN BEGAN TO WEAKEN THEREAFTER AND WAS OVERTAKEN BY AN APPROACHING SQUALL LINE.

ANY ADDITIONAL SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS TORNADO EVENT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AS NECESSARY.

TED FUNK  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



Storm damage survey  
Public Information  
Statement



# Tornado Damage



Zoneton Estates in  
Bullitt County.  
Photo courtesy Jeff Schaefer.



Brooks in Bullitt County.  
Photo courtesy Mark Lenberger.



# Tornado Damage



Pioneer Village Subdivision in  
Bullitt County.



Pioneer Village Subdivision in  
Bullitt County.



# Bullitt County Tornado



Tornado picture from  
northern Bullitt County.  
Courtesy WAVE-TV.

